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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
Security Committee

SECOM-D-035

4 February 1985

Maj. Gen. John E. Morrison, Jr., USAF (Ret.)
Executive Vice President
Security Affairs Support Association
80 West Street, (Suite 110)
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear General Morrison:

At the January 1985 meeting of the Security Committee, SASA's revised proposal to serve as an intermediary concerning personnel security clearance issues on classified contracts was reviewed. The Security Committee again voted without dissent in opposition to the proposal.

It is the consensus of the Security Committee that there are well-established procedures for dealing with industrial security problems. These procedures provide ample means for the exchange of views between the parties to classified contracts. Some members expressed concern that the insertion of a third party into classified contractual matters could constitute a breach of security.

The Security Committee view is that the matters which SASA proposes to coordinate are already sufficiently coordinated. The members do not believe that the SASA proposal is in the best interests of the government, the contractors or the national security. The members suggest that SASA may wish to reassess the desirability of the proposal.

Sincerely,

STAT

Chairman

Prepared by: SECOM/

STAT

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January 28, 1985

STAT

Chairman, DCI Security Committee
Via Ames ISC, Rm. 1225 Ames Building
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear [REDACTED]

STAT

Enclosed herewith is a copy of my letter of 24 January 1985 to the SASA membership which invites their views on the desirability (or luck thereof) of having the association headquarters undertake a personnel security clearance program (as we have previously discussed).

I will be in touch when I have something to report.

Kindest personal regards,

John E. Morrison, Jr.
Executive Vice President

JEM/cga
Enclosure

80 West Street • Suite 110 • Annapolis, Maryland 21401 • (301) 269-5424

Dispatched 24 Jan 1985

<today>

<name.title> <name> <name.title2>
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Dear <name.salutation>

For several years, SASA has been made aware informally of difficulties being experienced by U. S. industry in personnel security matters. Some of the difficulties appear minor, while others are not. Many seem to be rooted in differing interpretations of personnel security regulations. Considering their nature in the context of the essentiality of maintaining the highest possible standards in national security matters, we recognize that solutions satisfactory to all concerned may not be achievable. Even so, your association believes that the quest for solutions, properly and sensitively mounted, might prove immensely beneficial to both government and industry.

We therefore propose to embark on a tightly controlled study program to determine comprehensively, the nature and extent of existing difficulties and subsequently, seek solutions with appropriate government authorities.

We believe that there has been some hesitancy in expressing what might be interpreted as complaints in personnel security matters. However, we feel that this reluctance might be overcome by having SASA serve as an intermediary to receive and process industry views on personnel security clearance problems on a completely non-attributable basis. SASA would not release the identification of the source of any problems received.

Your association has already sought the informal views of key government authorities regarding our proposal and has received sufficient encouragement to warrant seeking your views before we proceed further. Specifically, we would like you to advise us if you are interested in having SASA undertake a program focused on the resolution of personnel security clearance problems. If the consensus indicates that SASA should proceed, we would intend to use your comments on a completely non-attribution basis---source identification removed---to finalize our arrangements with those in government whose cooperation is essential to program success. Let us repeat our assurance that all responses will be sensitively handled. Absolutely no source identification will be revealed whatsoever.

SASA is mindful that it is offering to embark on a program which involves sensitive concerns of considerable magnitude and complexity, but we are persuaded that the potential outcomes for both government and industry thoroughly justifies such a special effort.

We will be looking forward to receiving your views as soon as possible. You will receive the results of this initial survey when completed. Please advise if you have need for further information or clarification.

Kindest regards,

John E. Morrison, Jr.
Executive Vice President